

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267969

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON NAMIBIA BETWEEN ASSISTANT
SECRETARY BUFFUM AND SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR
BOTH A

1. AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM'S REQUEST, SOUTH AFRICAN
AMBASSADOR BOTH A MET WITH HIM DECEMBER 4 TO DISCUSS SOUTH
AFRICA'S POLICY TOWARD NAMIBIA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD
TO UPCOMING SC MEETING.

2. BUFFUM DESCRIBED TO BOTH A IN GENERAL TERMS DRAFT
RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY SWAPO AND SEAN MACBRIDE (USUN 5550)
AND ALSO MENTIONED SALIM STATED KEY OBJECTIVE OF SC
CONSIDERATION WOULD BE TO ASSURE SOUTH AFRICA'S COMPLIANCE
WITH SC RESOLUTION 310. BUFFUM EXPRESSED HOPE SOUTH AFRICA
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WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE WAY CLEAR TO SPEAK BEFORE SC DESPITE

ITS UNFORTUNATE EXCLUSION FROM GA.

3. BUFFUM MENTIONED THE DISCUSSIONS OF US VIEWS ON NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM AND AMBASSADOR HURD HAD HELD WITH SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO REVIEW POINTS IN SPIRIT OF OUR MUTUAL INTEREST IN PEACEFUL EVOLUTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. BUFFUM OBSERVED THAT US CONSIDERS NAMIBIA TO HAVE SPECIAL CHARACTER AND SAID US WELCOMES INDICATIONS THAT SAG IS REVIEWING ITS POLICY TOWARD TERRITORY. BOTH US AND SAG HAVE INTEREST IN ORDERLY TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA. CHANGE IS PARTICULARLY URGENT BECAUSE MOST OF WORLD BELIEVES SOUTH AFRICA'S OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA IS ILLEGAL.

5. BUFFUM ADDED THAT US HOPES SOUTH AFRICA WILL MAKE PLANS FOR THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE ENTIRE TERRITORY AND BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR SAG TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH SYG WALDHEIM ON SELF-DETERMINATION. HE SAID IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL FOR SAG TO LET WORLD COMMUNITY KNOW OF ITS PLANS FOR NAMIBIA. IN THIS REGARD, PARTICIPATION IN SC WOULD PROVIDE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO LAY OUT ITS PLANS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE FRAMEWORK AND TIMING OF SETTLEMENT. STATEMENT IN SC WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US AND SAG.

6. US ALSO HOPES,BUFFUM SAID, SOUTH AFRICA WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. WE HAVE NOTED WITH APPROVAL SAG'S ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS.

7. BOTHA TOLD BUFFUM FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER DISCUSSED NAMIBIA WITH SYG DURING RECENT VISIT TO NEW YORK, GIVING HIM BACKGROUND TO "NO HOLDS BARRED" ROUNDTABLE PROPOSED BY NATIONALIST PARTY IN NAMIBIA. BOTHA ADDED THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE PROMISING AND THAT IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF SC MADE UNREALISTIC DEMANDS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT SAG HAD ACCEPTED THAT DAYS OF THINKING OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SOUTHWEST AFRICA AS INTEGRAL PART OF SOUTH AFRICA ARE OVER. BOTHA PROMISED TO REPORT POINTS BUFFUM HAD MADE TO SAG. KISSINGER

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